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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Submission of Data by State Educational Agencies; submission dates for State revenue and expenditure reports for fiscal year (FY) 2011, revisions to those reports, and revisions to prior fiscal year reports

AGENCY: National Center for Education Statistics,

Institute of Education Sciences, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice

SUMMARY: The Secretary announces dates for the submission by State educational agencies (SEAs) of expenditure and revenue data and average daily attendance statistics on ED Form 2447 (the National Public Education Financial Survey (NPEFS)) for FY 2011. The Secretary sets these dates to ensure that data are available to serve as the basis for timely distribution of Federal funds. The U.S. Census Bureau is the data collection agent for the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). The data will be published by NCES and will be used by the Secretary in the calculation of allocations for FY 2013 appropriated funds. DATES: SEAs can begin submitting data on January 30, 2012. The deadline for the final submission of all data, including any revisions to previously submitted data for FY 2010 and FY 2011, is August 15, 2012. Any resubmissions of

FY 2010 or FY 2011 data by SEAs in response to requests for clarification or reconciliation, or other inquiries, by NCES or the Census Bureau must be completed by Tuesday, September 4, 2012. All outstanding data issues must be reconciled or resolved by the SEAs, NCES, and the Census Bureau prior to September 4, 2012.

ADDRESSES AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION: SEAs may mail ED Form 2447 to: U.S. Census Bureau, ATTENTION: Governments Division, Washington, DC 20233-6800.

SEAs may submit data via the World Wide Web ("Web") using the interactive survey form at:

http://surveys.nces.ed.gov/ccdnpefs. The Web form includes a digital confirmation page where a pin number can be entered. A successful entry of the pin number serves as a signature by the authorizing official. A certification form also can be printed from the Web site, and signed by the authorizing official and mailed to the Governments Division of the Census Bureau, at the address listed in the previous paragraph. This signed form must be mailed within five business days of Web form data submission.

Alternatively, SEAs may hand-deliver submissions by 4:00 p.m. (Eastern Time) to: Governments Division, U.S. Census Bureau, 4600 Silver Hill Road, Suitland, MD, 20746. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Jumaane Young, NPEFS

Project Manager or an NPEFS team member (Census Bureau), E-mail: Govs.npefs.list@census.gov. Telephone: 1-800-437-4196 or (301) 763-3481. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), call the Federal Relay Service (FRS), toll free, at 1-800-877-8339.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document

in an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print, audiotape, or compact disc) on request to: Stephen Q. Cornman, Project Director, National Center for Education Statistics, Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education, Washington, DC 20208-5651. Telephone: (202) 502-7338. SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the authority of section 153(a)(1)(I) of the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002, 20 U.S.C. 9543, which authorizes NCES to gather data on the financing of education, NCES collects data annually from SEAs through ED Form 2447. The report from SEAs includes attendance, revenue, and expenditure data from which NCES determines a State's "average per-pupil expenditure" (SPPE) for elementary and secondary education, as defined in section 9101(2) of the Elementary and Secondary Education

In addition to using the SPPE data as general information on the financing of elementary and secondary

Act of 1965, as amended (ESEA) (20 U.S.C. 7801(2)).

education, the Secretary uses these data directly in calculating allocations for certain formula grant programs, including, but not limited to, the Title I, Part A of the ESEA; Impact Aid; and Indian Education programs. Other programs, such as the Education for Homeless Children and Youth program under Title VII of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, and the Teacher Quality State Grants program (Title II, Part A of the ESEA), make use of SPPE data indirectly because their formulas are based, in whole or in part, on State Title I, Part A allocations.

By mid-January, the Census Bureau, acting as the data collection agent for NCES, will email to SEAs ED Form 2447 with instructions and a request that SEAs commence submitting FY 2011 data to the Census Bureau on January 30, 2012. SEAs are urged to submit accurate and complete data by March 15, 2012, to facilitate timely processing.

Submissions by SEAs to the Census Bureau will be analyzed for accuracy and returned to each SEA for verification.

All data, including any revisions to FY 2010 and FY 2011 data, must be submitted to the Census Bureau by an SEA not later than August 15, 2012. Any resubmissions of FY 2010 or FY 2011 data by SEAs in response to requests for clarification or reconciliation, or other inquiries, by NCES or the Census Bureau must be completed by Tuesday,

September 4, 2012. Between August 15, 2012, and September 4, 2012, States may also, on their own initiative, resubmit data to resolve data issues not addressed in their final submission of NPEFS data by August 15, 2012. All outstanding data issues must be reconciled or resolved by the SEAs, NCES, and the Census Bureau prior to September 4, 2012.

In order to facilitate timely submission of data, the Census Bureau will send reminder notices to SEAs in June and July of 2012.

Having accurate and consistent information on time is critical to an efficient and fair allocation process and to the NCES statistical process. To ensure timely distribution of Federal education funds based on the best, most accurate data available, NCES establishes, for allocation purposes, August 15, 2012, as the final date by which the NPEFS Web form or ED Form 2447 must be submitted. Any resubmissions of FY 2010 or FY 2011 data by SEAs in response to requests for clarification or reconciliation, or other inquiries, by NCES or the Census Bureau must be completed through the NPEFS Web form or ED Form 2447 by Tuesday, September 4, 2012. If an SEA submits revised data after the final deadline that result in a lower SPPE figure, its allocations may be adjusted downward or the

Department may direct the SEA to return funds. SEAs should be aware that all of these data are subject to audit and that if any inaccuracies are discovered in the audit process, the Department may seek recovery of overpayments for the applicable programs.

 $\underline{\text{Note}}$: The following are important dates in the data collection process for FY 2011:

January 30, 2012	SEAs can begin to submit accurate and complete data for FY 2010 and
	FY 2011
March 15, 2012	SEAs are urged to have finished
	submitting accurate and complete
	data for FY 2010 and FY 2011.
August 15, 2012	Mandatory final submission date
	for FY 2010 and FY 2011 data
September 4,	Response by SEA's to response to
2012	requests for clarification,
	reconciliation or other inquiries
	by NCES or the Census Bureau.
	All data issues to be resolved.

If an SEA's submission is received by the Census

Bureau after August 15, 2012, the SEA must show one of the

following as proof that the submission was mailed on or

before that date:

- 1. A legibly dated U.S. Postal Service postmark.
- 2. A legible mail receipt with the date of mailing stamped by the U.S. Postal Service.
 - 3. A dated shipping label, invoice, or receipt from a

commercial carrier.

4. Any other proof of mailing acceptable to the Secretary.

If the SEA mails ED Form 2447 through the U.S. Postal Service, the Secretary does not accept either of the following as proof of mailing:

- 1. A private metered postmark.
- 2. A mail receipt that is not dated by the U.S. Postal Service.

Note: The U.S. Postal Service does not uniformly provide a dated postmark. Before relying on this method, an SEA should check with its local post office.

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Dated: January 5, 2012

John Q. Easton,
Director, Institute of Education
Sciences.

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